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URBAN DISTRICT

OF

FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1960

FEATHERSTONE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1960.

BY

J. F. FRASER.

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, a Report on the Health and Health Services of Featherstone during the year 1960.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector, dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council, are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

John F. Mason.

Medical Officer of Health.

FEATHERSTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL - 1960.

Chairman: Cr. Mrs. M.L. Fox.

Vice-Chairman: Cr. J. Harper. J.P.

Cr. Mrs. J. Brabbs.

Cr. A.J. Davies.

Cr. F.B. Dyson.

Cr. Mrs. B. Major.

Cr. W. Marsh.

Cr. T. Morgan.

Cr. S. Robinson.

Cr. H. Woodcock.

Cr. T.A. Worsfold.

Cr. H. Wright.

Clerk to the Council: H. Tattersall. A.L.A.A., F.R.Econ.C.

Medical Officer of Health: John F. Fraser.
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Public Health Inspector: J.F. Ellison. C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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PART ONE.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District: 4,425 Acres.

Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate: 14,660.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1960: 4,552.

Rateable Value at end of 1960: £98,685. 1959: £94,705.

Product of Penny Rate: 1960: £374.18s.10d. 1959: £318.18s.0d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1959.

Live Births.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate.	142	(137)	120	(121)	262	(258)
Illegitimate.	3	(5)	3	(3)	6	(8)
Totals:-	145	(142)	123	(124)	268	(266)

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 18.3 (18.3).
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 17.2

Still Births.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate.	4	(3)	1	(2)	5	(5)
Illegitimate.	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
Totals:-	4	(3)	1	(2)	5	(5)

Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 18.3. (18.5).
Rate per 1,000 estimated population: 0.34. (0.34).

Deaths.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
All age groups.	58	(72).	60	(68).	118	(140).

Deaths - Infants under one year.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate.	3	(10).	5	(4).	8	(14).
Illegitimate.	-	(-).	-	(-).	-	(-).
Totals:-	3	(10).	5	(4).	8	(14).

Deaths - Infants under four weeks.	Male.		Female.		Total.	
Legitimate.	1	(8)	3	(4)	4	(12)
Illegitimate.	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
Totals:-	1	( )	3	(4)	4	(12)

MATERNAL DEATHS - One. (Nil).

DEATH RATES.

Crude rate per 1,000 population:	8.0	(9.6).
Adjusted rate per 1,000 population:	11.2	
All infants per 1,000 live births:	29.9	(52.6).
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:	30.53	(54.26).
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births:	3.66	(Nil).

The Principal causes of Death are set out in the following Table:-

TABLE I.

Cause of Death.	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	1	-	1
Meningococcal Infections.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	-	3	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	7	3	10
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	6	12	18
Coronary Disease. Angina.	12	9	21
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	-	2	2
Other Heart Disease.	3	11	14
Other Circulatory Disease.	1	1	2
Influenza.	1	1	2
Pneumonia.	1	1	2
Bronchitis.	4	3	7
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System.	4	-	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	-	1	1
Congenital Malformations.	1	-	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases.	5	8	13
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1
All other Accidents.	1	1	2
Totals:-	58	60	118

The number of deaths registered during the year was 118, a decrease of 22 compared with last year. This yields a death rate of 8.0 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against a figure of 9.6 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales is 11.5.

The Principal causes of deaths as compared with 1959, 1958, 1957 and 1956 are as follows:-

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Heart Disease.	39	46	44	68	65
Cancer.	25	21	18	21	20
Bronchitis.	7	12	7	16	8
Tuberculosis. (All forms).	1	Nil	4	4	1

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality rate for 1960 is 29.9, compared with 21.7 which is the figure for England and Wales.

The following Table gives causes of Infant Deaths during 1960, classified into age groups and months of incidence.

TABLE II.

Cause of Death.	Weeks.				Months.				Under 1 year.		
	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	M	F	Total
Atelectasis. Prematurity.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Prematurity.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gastro Enteritis. Congenital Hydronephrosis.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Ileo-Colic. Intussusception.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Broncho-Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Toxaemia. Meningococcal Septicaemia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Totals:-	4	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	3	5	8

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PREVIOUS SEVEN YEARS AS COMPARED WITH 1960.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality Rate.
1953	19.8	8.0	32.4
1954	15.6	10.1	36.5
1955	16.6	10.4	42.6
1956	19.5	9.3	28.7
1957	18.9	10.3	22.1
1958	18.2	7.9	19.0
1959	18.3	9.6	52.6
1960	18.3	8.0	29.9

COMPARISON OF FEATHERSTONE VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

TABLE III.

	Featherstone Urban District.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.	West Riding Admin. County.	England and Wales (provisional figures).
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population).				
Crude Rate.	18.3	16.5	16.9	17.1
Adjusted Rate.	17.2	16.7	17.1	-
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population).				
All causes. Crude Rate.	8.0	12.2	11.5	11.5
Adjusted Rate.	11.2	12.9	12.6	-
Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syphl. and other V.D.	0.07	0.06	0.06	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Tuberculosis Other.	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
Tuberculosis - All forms.	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07
Cancer.	1.71	2.10	1.98	2.16
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System.	1.23	1.97	1.85	*
Heart & Circulatory Diseases.	2.66	4.68	4.35	*
Respiratory Diseases.	1.02	1.25	1.17	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live & still births).	3.66	0.70	0.73	0.39
Perinatal Mortality.	33.0	35.3	35.9	*
Neonatal Mortality.	14.9	15.9	15.8	15.6
Infant Mortality.	29.9	22.5	22.5	21.7
Still births (per 1,000 live and still births).	18.3	21.8	22.4	19.7

* Figures not available.

PART TWO.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

TABLE IV.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar.	Apl/ June	Jul/ Sept.	Oct/ Dec.	Total	Deaths	No. of cases admitted to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever.	17	5	3	3	28	-	-
Whooping Cough.	111	29	3	1	144	-	5
Measles.	4	4	20	6	34	-	1
Erysipelas.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia.	6	1	2	-	9	1	1
Food Poisoning.	-	2	-	2	4	-	1
Dysentery.	-	4	4	24	32	-	2
Totals:-	139	45	32	36	252	1	10

Measles follows a two yearly cycle and this has been a 'low' measles year. There were 34 cases against 268 in 1959 and 49 in 1958.

Diphtheria.

No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Immunisation.

189 children under the age of five years and 296 over the age of five years received a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria. In addition, 609 children received a reinforcing injection.

A special immunisation session was held at Albert Street Clinic, Featherstone, on the first Thursday of each month.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous Persons:-

TABLE V.

Number of Cases in Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total in Register.
	M	F	M	F	
At the commencement of 1960.	75	43	13	15	146
Notified for the first time during 1960.	3	3	1	-	7
Inward Transfers.	1	2	-	-	3
Removed from Register.	5	7	-	1	13
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1960.	74	41	14	14	143

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:-

TABLE VI.

Entries Relating to:-	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total.
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died.	2	-	-	-	2
Persons certified by the medical practitioners in attendance to have recovered.	1	2	-	1	4
Persons who have ceased to reside in district.	2	5	-	-	7
Totals:-	5	7	-	1	13

In the following Table, new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of disease:-

TABLE VII.

Ages.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 45	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Under 55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals:-	3	3	1	-	2	-	-	-

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.

PART 111.

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF THE
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
DIVISION 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough.

Featherstone Urban District.

Knottingley Urban District.

Osgoldcross Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER
1960.

BY

J. F. FRASER.,

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1960.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J.F. Fraser. M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D. Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

G.M. Mayhall. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

M. Obadiah. M.B., B.S., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff.

Ophthalmologist.

J.V. Kirkwood. M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

R.W.L. Calderwood. F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino-Laryngologist.

K.M. Mayall. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss E.M. Atkinson.
Mrs. P.M. Brice.
Mrs. B. Clarke.
Miss L.O.I. Day.
Miss A. Elsley.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.
Miss B.N. Kennington.
Mrs. M.K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitors.

Mrs. M. Harrison.
Mrs. J.K. Smith. (Clinic Nurse).

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives.

Mrs. A. Atack.
Mrs. K. Berry.
Mrs. E. Glover. (Relief).
Mrs. D. Kelly.
Mrs. B. Lister.
Miss C. Norton.
Mrs. A.M. Randall.
Miss C.A. Roberts.
Mrs. J.R. Wilford.

Home Nurses.

Miss L. Casey.
Mrs. F. Green.
Miss E. Lumley.
Mrs. V. McVeigh.
Mrs. A. Pearce.
Mrs. J.M. Pycock.
Miss M. Reading. (County Relief).

Mental Welfare Officers.

Miss M. Horsley.
Mr. G.F.G. Townend.

Speech Therapist.

Miss K. Wade.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver - Senior Clerk.
Mr. R. Bailey - Deputy Senior Clerk.
Miss F.C. Beresford.
Miss K. Duker.
Miss V. Shaw.
Mrs. E.M. Slack. (Part-time).
Mrs. T. Smith.
Miss M. Thorpe.
Mrs. C. Walker.
Mr. D. Wright.

INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1960 was 1125, an increase of 33 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 18.7 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 18.4 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.9 and the England and Wales birth rate of 17.1

Deaths

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 608, an increase of 1 compared with 1259.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 10.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 10.3 for the previous year. The West Riding Administrative area is 11.5 and England and Wales 11.5.

Infant Mortality

In 1960 the deaths of Infants under one year of age numbered 29. The Infant Mortality was 25.8 as against 33.0 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality

There were two maternal deaths in the Divisional area during the year, one in Pontefract and one in Featherstone.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

Domiciliary Midwifery

Of the 1159 notified live births, 434 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 54 of these cases.

Notifications

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the Division:-

Death of Mother.	-
Death of Child.	1
Still Births.	8
Artificial Feeding.	86
Liability to be a source of infection.	1

Medical Assistance

Medical Aid notices sent in by midwives during 1960 numbered 71, all of these being domiciliary.

Gas and Air Analgesia

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia only was given in 72 cases. Pethidine only was given in 76 cases, and gas and air and pethidine was given in 206 cases.

The County Council decided in April to provide each Midwife with a Trilene Analgesic Machine in addition to the Gas and Air Machine. By the end of the year half the Midwives had received the new machines.

Ante-Natal Clinics

There are four ante-natal clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and during the year 555 patients attended, of which 415 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 2170. 106 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and the number of attendances at these Clinics during the year was 704.

Institutional Midwifery

Patients from this Division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

Little difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

CHILD WELFARE

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley.

Our Pontefract Clinic continues to be admired and appreciated by patients and staff.

Several improvements will be made at the Knottingley Clinic in 1961, including a new entrance, pram shelter and additional toilet facilities.

The following proprietory preparations were available at cost price to all women attending at the Clinics:-

Ostermilk.	Virol.
Trufood.	Maltoline.
Ovaltine.	Scotts Twin Pack.
Cow & Gate.	Farex.
Horlicks.	Robinson's Groats.
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Patent Barley.
Minadex.	Colact.
Lactagol.	Robrex.
Bemax.	Robsoup.
Gerex.	Bovril Weaning Food.
Trufood Cereal.	Roboleine.

The annual turnover of baby food etc. is approximately £5,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets.	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets.
Viteolin Tablets.	A & D Liquid.
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the Clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies.

During the year 76 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division, and 22 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Medical Inspections

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups, i.e. the entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediate years (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at the 57 schools in the Division.

Re-examinations of children who, at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3395 periodic inspections were carried out.

General Condition of Children

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 97.18% were classified as satisfactory and only 2.82% as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness

During the year health visitors and school nurses made 17,123 examinations of children in schools. Of these 401 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS

Ophthalmic Clinics

Dr. J.V. Kirkwood holds weekly clinics at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1646 children were examined. Of these 676 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, for children from this Division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 25 sessions and saw 125 children. In all, the children made 261 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly Clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 129 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 150.

Child Guidance Treatment

A Child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding Divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. We were fortunate to secure the services of Dr. P.J. Crowley, Consultant Psychiatrist, when Dr. Leese resigned her appointment with the West Riding County Council.

Mr. D.G. Pickles, Clinical Psychologist, and Mr. J. Coulson, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the Clinic.

Speech Therapy

In 1959, the speech therapy clinic at Featherstone was transferred to the Central Clinic, Pontefract. This is more convenient and more centrally situated for mothers to attend. Miss K.M. Wade, Speech Therapist, treated 52 children during 1960.

Handicapped Pupils

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 38 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 18 examinations were made.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tuberclo bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

During 1960 the Ministry of Health decided to make the offer of Vaccination a continuous one to all children over 13 years of age.

No. of consents issued.	No. of consents Received.	Mantoux Test.	Mantoux Negative	Mantoux Positive
1636	834	776	655	121

Not Ascertained.	B.C.G. Vaccination.
-	655

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

The programme of Vaccination was continued during the year.

At the end of 1960 the position was as follows:-

Children under 15 years.

Number vaccinated 11263

Young Persons.

Number vaccinated 2592

Adults.

Number vaccinated 347

HEALTH VISITING

During the year, the following number of visits were made by the Health Visitors in the Division:-

No. of children under 5 years of age visited during year .. 4140
Total visits made to expectant mothers..... 191
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age..... 5501
Total visits made to children aged 1 and under 2 years..... 2975
Total visits made to children aged 2 but under 5 years..... 5682
Total visits made to tuberculous households..... 1713
Total families or households visited..... 5208
Other cases visited..... 7269

HOME NURSING

During the year 22,380 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 22,476 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses during year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during year.
(1) Medical.	565	17,579
(2) Surgical.	196	4,214
(3) Infectious Diseases.	-	-
(4) Tuberculosis.	13	542
(5) Maternal complications.	2	45
Totals:-	776	22,380
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	500	16,915
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	28	160
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	181	14,393

HOME HELP SERVICE

The Home Help Service is provided under the Nationa Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

(a) Ill.
(b) Lying-in.
(c) Aged.
(d) Expectant Mother.
(e) Mental Defective.
(f) A child not over compulsory school age.

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service, or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division was 24.

Authorised Divisional Establishment

(i)	Basic.	24
(ii)	From reserve.	6
(iii)	TOTAL.	30

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1960.

(i)	Whole-time.	Nil.
(ii)	Part-time.	49
(iii)	TOTAL.	49

Cases provided with Domestic help during the year ended 31st December, 1960.

		No. of Cases.	Hours employed.
(i)	Maternity (including expectant mothers).	36	2477
(ii)	Tuberculosis.	3	984
(iii)	Chronic Sick - (a) aged 65 +	321	58570
	(b) under 65	66	8130
(iv)	Others.	-	-
	TOTALS:-	426	70166

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time - 30.7

MENTAL HEALTH

In November, 1960, the new Mental Health Act became operative and two Mental Welfare Officers were given the task of coping with the increased work which the Act places upon local Health Authorities.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF

New entrants to the County Council service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 68 candidates.

In addition I medically examined 46 persons who were to be employed in the School Meals Service.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF

FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1960, the Second I have had the honour of placing before you.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY: The water supply, which is purchased in bulk from Wakefield Corporation Waterworks was satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year.

No restrictions were imposed during 1960.

All the houses in the district are connected to the Public Mains and the supply is generally adequate. However, the higher parts of the Purston Area suffer a greatly reduced supply on certain days due to inadequate mains. A scheme designed to give an improved supply has been prepared and it is anticipated that this will be carried out during 1961. Other complaints of poor supply have invariably been due to old supply pipes. These have been renewed after the service of notices.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND DRAINAGE.

During the year 1 pail closet, 2 privy closets and 1 waste water closet were converted to water closets; 68 additional water closets were provided for old property and 56 water closets were provided for new property, while 12 water closets were demolished with the houses they served, and 6 water closets were disposed of with the closing of 8 dwelling houses.

At the end of the year there were:-

5,112	Pedestal Water Closets
4	Trough Closets
16	Waste Water Closets
12	Pail Closets
23	Privy Closets

There are 90 houses in the district not connected to the public sewer which are drained to cesspools. The cesspools are regularly emptied by means of a mechanical cesspool emptier.

There are two Sewage Works, one at South Featherstone draining 64% of the houses and one at Old Snydale draining 34%. The remaining 2% represents the Loscoe property now draining to Normanton Urban District Council sewer.

The South Featherstone Sewage Works continued to produce a very satisfactory effluent throughout the year. It was found that due to mining operations and the consequent subsidence the major improvement and repair works at Old Snydale Sewage Works could not be carried out until settlement had ceased. Therefore, preparations were made for the installation of a new dosing siphon only and this will be done in 1961. The remaining works involving the rebuilding of the filters and the provision of a new sludge pump, will follow when circumstances allow.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL: This service is carried out on a weekly basis by two vehicles. A third vehicle fitted with a refuse collection body is used as a relief during maintenance or repair works, and to speed up collections after delays due to holidays etc. This vehicle is also loaned to other departments. Less frequent collections are made from a few of the remaining ashpits, usually situated at outlying premises.

Disposal is by tipping on Council owned land surrounding the South Featherstone Sewage Works at a reasonable distance from dwelling houses. The nature of the present day refuse gives rise to various problems, and attracts flies, rats and other pests. These are controlled by the best possible means.

One vehicle is employed in the cleansing of cesspools and street gullies. On average, 3 weeks are spent on cesspools and one on street gullies, during each month. A new vehicle was ordered in April, delivery being expected in November. Due to shortage of parts the vehicle was not delivered in 1960 but will be available early in the new year. The old vehicle will then act as a mobile sludge pump at Old Snydale Sewage Works until the improvements can be completed.

The estimated weight of refuse collected was 9,780½ tons. Of this quantity 9,758 tons were disposed of by tipping and 22½ tons were recovered as salvage.

The following materials were salvaged and sold:-

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.		£.	s.	d.
22.	9.	3.	23.	Fibreboard	213.	14.	8.

NUISANCES: 108 Informal and 90 Statutory Notices were issued during 1960, 76% of which were complied with by the end of the year.

RODENT CONTROL: During the year 2,024 inspections were made and premises were baited (pre-bait and poison) against rats and mice. These were mostly small infestations but included several allotments. 197 rats and 79 dead mice were picked up. Many others of course die in the holes and other hiding places.

The Council's own premises, sewage works and refuse tip were treated at three monthly intervals. Sewer Treatments were carried out in April.

Once again very full cooperation from the public has been received, helping to ensure the maintenance of an efficient service.

HOUSING: During the year 30 Aged Persons' Bungalows and 2 Warden's Bungalows were built by the local authority, and 24 dwellings by private enterprise, a total of 56 new dwellings.

18 houses and 1 caravan were demolished during the year in pursuance of clearance or demolition orders, and 8 houses were closed.

15 families were rehoused during the year from unfit dwellings.

2 overcrowded families were rehoused, and a further 7 cases of overcrowding were alleviated by rehousing lodgers. Of the 15 families rehoused from unfit dwellings 6 were also overcrowded.

75 houses were found to require Statutory action to secure repairs.

32 individual unfit houses were included in Representations made during the year.

Improvements to houses under the Standard Grant Scheme continued and by the end of the year 64 applicants had received grants totalling £6,985.

It is pleasing to note that applications for grants from the owners of 39 tenanted houses were granted. Of these, 22 were completed by the end of the year.

This figure is still very small in comparision with the number of owner/occupiers who are taking advantage of the grant scheme, and it is to be deplored that, unless some change of attitude can be brought about amongst the majority of landlords of tenanted houses, it is obvious that a very great number of people will continue to be deprived of what are after all no longer luxuries, but essentials.

THE RENT ACT 1957: During the year, no certificates of disrepair were granted, but 10 certificates were cancelled, as against the 1959 figures of 1 certificate granted, 3 undertakings given and 10 certificates cancelled. During its first year of operation, 1957, 101 Form "J" - (Notice of Intention to issue Certificates of Disrepair), were served on owners, resulting in 63 undertakings by owners and the issue of 38 Certificates of Disrepair.

As predicted in the 1959 Report, activities under the repairs section of the Act virtually ceased, being confined to the winding up of earlier applications. The above action took place in the first half year of 1960. Since then, no enquiries or complaints have been received under the Act.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD: There was quite an appreciable decrease in the number of animals slaughtered in the district as set out in the following table.

	Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Total Animals.
1959	132	16	-	1111	102	1361
1960	110	7	1	737	72	927

At the beginning of the year, two slaughterhouses were in operation, one dealing with beasts, sheep and occasional pigs for three butchers and the other with pigs for the occupier, a pork butcher.

In May, the activities of the first mentioned slaughterhouse were reduced to dealing with the requirements of two butchers, and in August on the pork butcher's retirement his slaughterhouse ceased to function.

The Slaughterhouse Report was submitted to the Minister in October, with the recommendation that the 1st April, 1961 should be the appointed day for the construction regulations to apply to the one remaining slaughterhouse. Thus, subject to the Minister's approval, unless the slaughterhouse does comply with the regulations by this date, slaughtering will not be permitted.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	110	7	1	737	72	-
No. inspected	110	7	1	737	72	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	24	2	-	1	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and cysticerci	21.81	28.57	-	.135	5.5	-
Tuberculosis only....						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	2	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.73	28.57	-	-	1.38	-
Cysticercosis....						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

PART CARCASES AND ORGANS CONDEMNED

	Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Heads and Tongues	3	-	1	4
Lungs	12	-	-	12
Livers and Part Livers	18	1	4	23
Skirt	1	-	-	1

DISEASES OR CONDITIONS FOUND

	Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Tuberculosis	5	-	1	6
Abscesses	5	-	-	5
Flukes	17	-	-	17
Pleurisy	3	-	-	3
Necrosis	1	-	4	5
Congestion	-	1	-	1

During the year the following articles of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Meat (Slaughterhouses)	215.lbs	Tinned Milk	24
Tinned Meat	189½.lbs	Tinned Irish Stew	12
Tinned Fruit	73	Tinned Vegetables	5
Tinned Tomatoes	163	Tinned Fish	5
Tinned Steak	35	Tinned Milk Puddings	4

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955: There are 9 Catering Establishments, 4 Bakehouses and 148 other Food Shops in the district. Improvements have continued throughout the year, and an increasing number of refrigerated cabinets and show cases are being used for perishable foods. It has been necessary on a few occasions to draw the attention of certain shopkeepers to minor infringements of the Regulations, but no further action has been necessary.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956: No problems have arisen in connection with smoke from industrial chimneys throughout the year, the improvement reported last year having been maintained. Grading works on colliery spoilheaps have helped the permanent sprinkler system to keep nuisances from burning spoil to a minimum.

The removal of red shale from disused spoil heaps to provide ballast for new trunk roads gave rise to dust nuisance on occasions, but damping down by hosing brought relief. It is hoped that the demand for the shale will continue until these blots on the landscape are removed entirely.

No progress has been made in connection with domestic property. Mineworkers are so numerous and their houses are so distributed throughout the district that until the concessionary coal problem is completely and finally settled, no great steps can be taken in this direction.

The number of diesel engined vehicles is continually increasing and although the large majority cause little concern, some do give off clouds of choking black smoke simply through the lack of routine maintenance.

FACTORIES: There are 43 premises on the register, and 137 inspections were made. It was not found necessary to take any legal action. The Factories Act, 1937 (Parts 1 and V111) tables follows:-

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities /.....	2	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	31	95	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority / (excluding out-workers' premises).....	10	32	-	-
Total.....	43	137	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).....	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)....	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)..... (a) insufficient...	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c)Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....	-	-	-	X 1	-
Total.....	-	-	-	1	-

X Section 34. Means of Escape in case of fire....Functions transferred to Fire Authority 1st Dec,1960.

PART V111 OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110: No. of out workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of Cases of defaultin sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	Section 111: No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel) Making etc., Cleaning and Washing	5	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Furniture and upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables and chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding etc., of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.,	-	-	-	-	-	-

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole some premises	Notices served	Prosec- utions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Textile Weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

SWIMMING BATHS: There is one public swimming bath in this district having one small and one large pool.

The water supply is by the towns mains from Wakefield Corporation Waterworks.

The large pool has a capacity of some 68,000 gallons and the small pool some 6,000 gallons. The water is cleansed and purified by a Bell's Standard filtration system, capable of delivering 28,000 gallons per hour. Thus the contents of both pools pass through every three hours.

The free chlorine content and p.h. value are checked by the Baths staff three times daily, and samples are taken for bacteriological examination by this department.

During the 1960 swimming season, 42 samples were examined bacteriologically, of which 30 were entirely satisfactory. Of the 12 unsatisfactory samples, 8 failed on plate count only. After increased chlorine doseage and extra tests for free chlorine content, the water was brought to and remained at the required standard for the rest of the season.

CONCLUSION: Every endeavour was made to carry out the routine duties of the department and to ensure speedy attention to all complaints.

Many hours were spent sifting facts for and attending meetings of the Council's Boundaries Committee, set up to prepare an answer to the questionnaire issued by the Local Government Commission for England in connection with the West Yorkshire Special Review Area.

The advent of the Diploma Examination for Public Health Inspectors caused Mr. Southall to abandon the Course of Training he had commenced and transfer to the new Course. Although obviously the first year's studies were not wasted in terms of useful experience, a year was lost in time before Mr. Southall can qualify. This means that for a full four years at least, he cannot fully participate in all the duties of the department. Nevertheless, he has rendered me invaluable assistance throughout the year.

The letting of Council houses continued to be an onerous task. The method of allocation of "points" under the House Letting Scheme means constant checking of all application forms except those for Old Aged Persons' dwellings as all change with each full year of application, many change according to the ages of children and all applications from lodgers change as each wedding anniversary passes.

In fact not a week passes without some form or other requiring amendment. Thus these duties take up a considerable amount of time.

As the staff of the department remains numerically the same as in pre-war years, all the aformentioned duties, together with the inspections of sub-standard houses to ensure the maintenance of a steady slum-clearance programme, have led to a very full year.

I would again express my appreciation of the co-operation received throughout the year from all members of the Council's staff, not forgetting Dr. Fraser and his staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. Allison

Chief Public Health Inspector.